

12. (Once Amended) An isolated polynucleotide comprising a polynucleotide sequence encoding the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.

13. (Once Amended) An isolated polynucleotide comprising the polynucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.

14. (Once Amended) An isolated polynucleotide fully complementary to a polynucleotide comprising the polynucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.

15. (Once Amended) An expression vector comprising the isolated polynucleotide of claim 12.

16. A host cell comprising the expression vector of claim 15.

17. (Once Amended) A method for producing a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, said method comprising the steps of:

(a) culturing the host cell of claim 16 under conditions suitable for expression of the polypeptide, and

(b) recovering said polypeptide from the cell culture.

18. An isolated polynucleotide fully complementary to a polynucleotide comprising a polynucleotide sequence encoding the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.

19. A method of detecting a target polynucleotide in a sample, said target polynucleotide having a sequence of a polynucleotide of claim 13, the method comprising:

a) hybridizing the sample with a probe comprising at least 20 contiguous nucleotides comprising a sequence complementary to said target polynucleotide in the sample, and which probe specifically hybridizes to said target polynucleotide, under conditions whereby a hybridization complex is formed between said probe and

said target polynucleotide or fragments thereof, and

- b) detecting the presence or absence of said hybridization complex, and, optionally, if present, the amount thereof.

20. A method of claim 19, wherein the probe comprises at least 60 contiguous nucleotides.

21. A method of detecting a target polynucleotide in a sample, said target polynucleotide having a sequence of a polynucleotide of claim 13, the method comprising:

- a) amplifying said target polynucleotide or fragment thereof using polymerase chain reaction amplification, and
- b) detecting the presence or absence of said amplified target polynucleotide or fragment thereof, and, optionally, if present, the amount thereof.

22. A method of screening a compound for effectiveness in altering expression of a target polynucleotide, wherein said target polynucleotide comprises a sequence of claim 13, the method comprising:

- a) exposing a sample comprising the target polynucleotide to a compound, under conditions suitable for the expression of the target polynucleotide,
- b) detecting altered expression of the target polynucleotide, and
- c) comparing the expression of the target polynucleotide in the presence of varying amounts of the compound and in the absence of the compound.